

## Health News Release

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## Gig Harbor psychologist resolves charges for failing to protect client info

**OLYMPIA** — The Gig Harbor psychologist who had his laptop with client information stolen by a prostitute has resolved those charges with the Washington State Board of Psychology.

Sunil Kakar (PSYC.00003098) was immediately suspended in October 2013 and remains suspended for not protecting sensitive client information. He must undergo a mental health evaluation before trying to reinstate his license.

The board charged Kakar with unprofessional conduct and immediately suspended his license in October 2013. He kept Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) clients' medical information on his personal laptop. It was stolen by a prostitute and Kakar didn't notify DSHS until several days later. Kakar didn't initially disclose that the suspect in the theft was a prostitute. The suspension includes that Kakar also hadn't taken part in a previously required substance abuse monitoring program. The agreement completes the legal process.

All of the legal documents in this case are available online by clicking the link to "<u>Provider Credential Search</u>" on the <u>Department of Health home page</u> or by calling 360-236-4700. The number can also be used to file a complaint about a health care provider.

The Board of Psychology protects and promotes public health, safety, and welfare in Washington by regulating the competency and quality of licensed psychologists. The board establishes, monitors, and enforces qualifications for licensing, consistent standards of practice, continuing competency mechanisms, and discipline. Rules, policies, and procedures promote the delivery of quality health care to people in Washington.

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